

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAMASC 03078 300836Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /020 W  
-----011055 300838Z /20

R 280802Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO USDOC WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8197

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 3078

ATHENS FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: BTIO, ENRG, SY  
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE TRADE OPPORTUNITY: SYRIAN GOVERNMENT OIL  
CONCESSIONS

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY A SYRIAN BUSINESSMAN, GEORGE RAHAL WITH REQUEST THAT HE BE PUT IN TOUCH WITH U.S. PETROLEUM DRILLING AND EXPLORATION FIRMS. ACCORDING TO RAHAL, THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO GRANT IN THE NEAR FUTURE OIL EXPLORATION CONCESSIONS IN SIX LOCATIONS IN CENTRAL AND NORTHERN SYRIA. RAHAL IS INFORMED THAT AMERICAN FIRMS ARE PREFERRED (SARG HAS ENTERED INTO SIMILAR ARRANGEMENTS WITH SHELL U.S. AND COASTAL STATES GAS). RAHAL WOULD LIKE TO ACT AS INTERMEDIARY TO BRING INTERESTED U.S. COMPANIES IN CONTACT WITH SYRIAN GOVERNMENT.

2. RAHAL IS A WELL-KNOWN BUSINESSMAN, AND ACTS AS AGENT FOR A NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL ELECTRONIC, MEDICAL, AND COMMUNICATIONS MANUFACTURERS. INTERESTED U.S. FIRMS SHOULD BE ADVISED TO CONTACT RAHAL EITHER THROUGH EMBASSY COMMERCIAL SECTION, OR DIRECTLY AT FOLLOWING ADDRESS: ENGINEERING OFFICE FOR CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT, P.O. BOX 8126, GEORGE RAHAL, VICE-PRESIDENT  
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(TELEPHONE 229833, 446509.

PELLETREAU

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES, TRADE CONCESSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978DAMASC03078  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Message ID:** 97274693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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